

REMARKS

Claims 8-20 were pending in the application. Claims 8, 10, 19, and 20 have been amended. No claims have been canceled or added. Therefore, claims 8-20 remain pending and are resubmitted for consideration.

Applicant appreciates the telephone call with Examiner Nguyen on August 4, 2009 discussing the claim rejections. According to Examiner Nguyen, page 5 of the Office Action includes a typographical error and should indicate that claims 14-18 are rejected.

I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 8-13 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,894,657 ("Kanayama"). The rejection should be withdrawn at least because Kanayama fails to teach or suggest each and every element of the claimed invention.

A. The Claims

Claims 8 and 20 are independent claims. Claim 8 recites a component placement device that comprises, among other things:

at least one substrate support that is configured to support a second substrate, wherein the at least one substrate support is positioned on only one longitudinal side of the transport device that is opposite from the longitudinal side at which the component feeder is located, and the at least one substrate support has a longitudinal direction that extends perpendicular to the transport direction,

wherein the at least one component pick-and-place unit is further configured to: (c) pick-up a component from the at least one component feeder; and (d) move the component over the elongated transport device to place the component on the second substrate supported by the substrate support.

Claim 20 calls for a component placement device with similar recitations. Kanayama fails to teach or suggest such a component placement device.

B. Kanayama

Kanayama discloses a mounting apparatus for an electrical component (19). The apparatus includes a board (16), a board carrier system (50), carrier heads (11, 13), feeders

that include a wafer system (200) and cassettes (400), and a Y-axis robot (18) and board stage (17). *See Kanayama at Figs. 1, 9A, and 11.* The board (16) travels along the board carrier system (50) in an X-direction (see Fig. 9A), then is moved in a Y-direction via Y-axis robot (18) onto a board stage (17) at which point a component (19) is placed on the board (16) via the carrier head (11, 13). *See Kanayama at Figs. 9A and 11.* The Examiner contends that the board carrier system (50) corresponds to a transport device and that the Y-axis robot (18) and board stage (17) correspond to a substrate support. *See Office Action at pp. 2-3.*

Kanayama does not disclose a component pick-and-place unit that is configured to place a component on a second substrate supported by a substrate support “*that is positioned on only one longitudinal side of the transport device that is opposite from the longitudinal side at which the component feeder is located*” (emphasis added). In contrast, Kanayama discloses a Y-axis robot (18) and board stage (17) (the alleged substrate support) on the same longitudinal side of the board carrier system (50) (the alleged transport device) as the cassettes (400) and wafer system (200) (the alleged component feeders).

Moreover, Kanayama does not disclose a device that is configured to place a component on a first substrate that is supported by a *transport device* and is configured to “place the component on a second substrate supported by the *substrate support*” as recited in claim 8 (emphasis added). In contrast, Kanayama is configured to place components on the board (16) only when the board (16) is supported by the board stage (17) (the alleged substrate support). *See Kanayama at Figs. 1, 9A, and 11.* Kanayama does not disclose the ability to place components on the board (16) when it is on the board carrier system (50) (the alleged transport device).

Furthermore, Kanayama does not disclose a component pick-and-place device that “move[s] the component *over the elongated transport device* to the substrate support” as recited in claims 8 and 20. In Kanayama, the component is merely moved over a portion of the Y-axis robot (18) (the alleged substrate support), not the board carrier system (50) (the alleged transport device). *See Kanayama at Figs. 1, 9A, and 11.* Therefore, the rejection of claims 8 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is improper. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 9-13 and 19 depend from claim 8 and are allowable therewith, for at least the reasons set forth above, without regard to the further patentable subject matter set forth in these dependent claims.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanayama in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,000,123 ("Munezane"). Claims 14-18 depend from claim 8. The rejection should be withdrawn for at least the following reasons.

Even assuming for the sake of the argument that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify Kanayama in view of Munezane in the manner suggested by the Examiner, the resulting modification would still fail to remedy the deficiencies noted above in regard to claim 8. Thus, the rejection of claims 14-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is improper. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

III. Conclusion

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

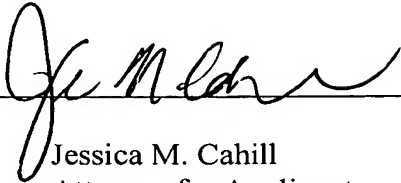
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing or a credit card payment form being unsigned, providing incorrect information resulting in a rejected credit card transaction, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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